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HOUSING OUTLOOK IS VERY SERIOUS

Big Shortage of Homes in City
is Seen During Coming
Few Months.

BUILDING COMPANY NEEDED

Organization Must Be Formed to Aid
in Relieving House Shortage
City is Facing.

The city of Alma is facing another winter season with what is expected will be the greatest shortage of homes for her workers before spring that the community has yet experienced, and it is becoming more and more certain that the business interests of the city must begin to plan within the next few months for some kind of a building organization which can aid Alma this next year in the construction of homes, hundreds of which are certain to be needed before spring.

There is little question but that few people in Alma have been turning their eyes to the immediate future of the city, and have seen the need that there will be in the next few months for houses.

At the present time it is almost impossible to secure a house in Alma. Cases have come up within the past few weeks, where houses have been sold, and the people who had been renting them were unable to find suitable residences, and were forced to rent suites of rooms for the winter.

With this condition true at the present time, it promises to be the most serious proposition that will confront Alma in the next few months, when some hundreds of workers will be seeking homes in this city. It will be only a matter of about ninety days before the plant of the Northern Wheel company will be in operation, a factory which is expected to start with over one hundred employees. The sugar factory is about to start and without a doubt among its three hundred fifty employees will be married men brought here, who will desire to remain in Alma, provided they can find homes.

There is another demand coming also. The plant of the Bollstrom Motor company has been started in St. Louis. Houses are now at a premium in that nearby city, where numerous Alma workers are now living. The demand in that place will be serious, and will aid in increasing the demand in Alma.

Of late great home building projects have been launched in some of the larger cities of the state, which might be brought into play in Alma with a telling effect in aiding to relieve the house shortage problem, which Alma has on its hands. Stock has been sold in these companies to the amount of hundreds of thousands, for the sole purpose of aiding in the development of the cities in which the companies are located. Only a reasonable return on the investment is sought, a small interest, as the vital proposition is community development in those cities.

These companies are aiding worthy workers to obtain homes. In some cases as high as ninety per cent of the cost of a home is advanced by the company, which constructs the homes, and sells them to the workers at about one per cent of the total purchase price a month as the monthly payment.

The companies have a variety of plans for homes, and furnish free plans for those who purchase from them.

A local committee is understood to be studying these different building organizations with a view of launching a project of this kind in the near future, and it will depend entirely upon the people of Alma just how successful such an organization will be, as it will be necessary to have thousands of dollars in stock subscriptions to make a company of this kind handle the situation in Alma.

HOWE PICTURES

The Lyman Howe Travel Festival will appear in Alma on Tuesday, October 14, at the Methodist Episcopal church on its fiftieth semi-annual tour, at which time a program will be given that is far different from any that Alma audiences have witnessed in the past.

The travel festival will appear in Alma under the auspices of the Young Men's class of the M. E. church, and because of the fact that the festival will be in Alma only one day a matinee and evening show will be given. Tickets will be on sale at Smith's Pathe Store on October 11.

ANNUAL Y. M. C. A. MEETING

The seventh annual meeting of the committee of the Gratiot county Y. M. C. A. was held in the First Presbyterian church of this city on Sunday afternoon, September 28. The meeting held an unusual interest as several new men were placed on the committee. Donald Smith was elected as chairman; Ralph Chisholm of Breckenridge as vice chairman, and Carl H. Washburn as secretary and treasurer.

Plans are now being laid for the program of work that will be taken up during the coming year.

SWAMPED

Expectation of Defeat and Lack of Practice Aided Owosso High.

The orange and black eleven, representing Alma high school went down to an overwhelming defeat at the hands of Owosso high at Owosso Saturday, the score when the final whistle blew being 57 to 0.

Owosso has a heavy team, but the defeat of the locals by such a score was not entirely justified by the strength of the Owossoans. The locals received the kickoff which started the game and carried the ball down the field fifty yards, before it was lost to Owosso, when Hurd intercepted an Alma pass and raced almost the entire length of the field for the first score. Alma received again, and again carried the ball far into Owosso territory before it was lost, on downs. The first half ended with the score 20 to 0 for the Owosso eleven.

The second half was just a romp up and down the field for the Owosso team. The locals, most of whom laid off from practice for two days last week, and who went into the game expecting defeat, offered no great resistance, being evidently contented to see how large a score Owosso could get, and the second half yielded them 37 points.

Alma had one good scoring chance during the game, this being when one of the local brigade grabbed a fumble and carried it to the one yard line. The punch that was needed to carry the ball over for the touchdown was lacking and Owosso took the ball under the shadow of her own goal.

FERRIS SATURDAY

College Eleven Will Play Big Rapids Team in Season's Second Game.

The Maroon and Cream football team of Alma college will play the Ferris Institute football eleven on Davis field Saturday afternoon, and Coach Wood is hoping that the Big Rapids aggregation will be able to give his gridders a hot battle to put them on edge for the M. A. C. bout of next Wednesday.

The few meager reports that have come out of Big Rapids regarding the former governor's pigskin chasers, indicate that it is an eleven of promise and the locals have a real battle on their hands.

The Presbyterian warriors have been rounding into shape rapidly since the opening game with Detroit Junior last Saturday, and will appear Saturday at 2:30 as a far different aggregation than the one which went into the game last week. The work of the line and of the backfield has improved wonderfully, and gives every indication of a brilliant eleven later in the season.

JUDGE SAMUEL GREENE GAVE ADDRESS HERE

Large Crowd Heard Kentucky
Speaker Give Christian
Science Lecture.

The following is a portion of the Christian Science lecture given Sunday afternoon by Judge Samuel W. Greene, C. S., of Louisville, Kentucky, member of Board of Lectureship of the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.:

The promise made through Christian Science as stated by its discoverer and founder, Mrs. Eddy, is, "Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need." (Science and Health, page 494). Christian Science is the unfolding to human consciousness of divine Love, and its practical application to the healing of all human disorders. Christian Science is first of all a religion, notwithstanding some of its uninformative critics have not so believed. It is the religion of Christ Jesus come again to the world to heal the sick and the sinning by the same principle or law.

Christian Science, in its healing ministry is not a patent cure-all, nor is it blind faith cure. It is not the action of will power nor is it the action of the human mind. On the contrary, it teaches that the human mind must yield to the divine Mind, to that Mind which was also in Christ Jesus, and in the proportion that Christian Science is understood, the life and words of Christ Jesus become practicable for all ages and all people.

The Bible from beginning to end is filled with the most splendid promises for God's children, and unless we have faith that these promises are meant for the here and now, even for today, we are of all men most miserable; for otherwise we are without God and a saving religion in this life. What the world is wanting—is seeking—is a religion that comes to the sick and tells them how to be well; that comes to the discouraged and despondent and lifts them out of the slough of despair and despond into the richness, into the fullness, into the joy, of a closer walk with God. Christian Science is supplying this need, through the spiritual interpretation of the Bible and the consequent spiritual understanding of God, and is enabling the world to find the rest and the peace promised by the Master.

Contrary to some critics of Christian Science.

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Proclamation

INASMUCH as Sunday, October 5th, has been named by the Federation of Churches of Alma as Rally Day in this city, and

Inasmuch as the moral tone of the city is always dependent to a large degree upon the strength and activity of its churches, and

Inasmuch as it is eminently desirable that the habit of church attendance shall be thoroughly established in the lives of young and old everywhere,

I, therefore, as mayor of the City of Alma proclaim Sunday, October 5th as City-wide Rally Day. On that day I would urge the citizens of the city and their families to attend the churches of their choice and to form the habit thereafter of regular attendance at divine worship.

CHARLES R. MURPHY, Mayor.

CORNERSTONE LAYING SOON

Church of Christ is Planning for
Big Event to Be Held
October 12.

NEW PASTOR IS COMING

Rev. Poston Will Assume Charge of
His New Field Here on Day
of Exercises.

Plans are now under way for the laying of the cornerstone for the Church of Christ, corner of Superior street and Court avenue, on Sunday afternoon, October 12, at which time it is expected that hundreds of members of this religious sect from this section of the state will be in Alma, together with a large number of local people to witness the exercises.

There will be a meeting of the church board Friday evening at which time the program for the exercises will be arranged, it is expected, although it is possible that it may not be perfected for nearly another week.

It is certain now, however, that Rev. G. L. Snively of Lewiston, Ill., will be the principal speaker of the day. Another feature that will be highly pleasing to the members of the Church of Christ of this city will be the appearance of Rev. Poston, the new pastor, in the local pulpit for the first time. Rev. Poston comes to the Alma church from Rome, Mich., where he has made a brilliant record as a pastor, and it is expected that he will quickly adjust himself to the larger field that will be his in Alma, and that he will prove just as successful here as in his former charge.

During the day there will be three special meetings, with good speakers and special music at each. One of these meetings will be in the morning, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. The meetings will be held in the basement of the new church.

The church structure, which is now nearing completion, is 48 feet in width and 84 feet in length, and will cost from \$25,000 to \$28,000 when completed.

MEET M. A. C.

Coach Wood's Green College Eleven
Will Mix with Aggies Wednesday.

This coming Wednesday the Alma college football team will meet the Michigan Aggies in the annual go to East Lansing, and in view of the big string of victories which Brewer has on hand, the Maroon and Cream has no hopes for a victory again this year over the Aggies, but has a determination to keep the score just as low as possible, and will wage a great fight with this end in view.

The eleven promises to be much stronger than that which faced the Detroit Junior college aggregation. Walker, former Ypsi Normal full-back, reputed to be a clever forward passer, and a crack punter, has his shoulder out of the sling again and is coveting on Davis field with the rest of the squad. In addition Battle of Detroit Northwestern's state championship team of two years ago, has rolled into camp and promises to make a valuable addition to the backfield. The appearance of these two men on the grid gives Coach Wood a fine bunch of backs to pick from. Captain Hebert, quarter; Mark, Jackson, Walker, Richards, Milford, Elliot and Smith.

Coach Wood is taking steps to strengthen his line greatly and it will be a far different forward wall that faces the Aggies, and it will be better drilled in the defensive game than was the eleven in the opener.

The Maroon and Cream will be highly satisfied to hold the Aggies, with their fourteen letter men, to a touchdown a quarter, and will feel that such a result will speak well of the chances of the Maroon and Cream in the games that make up the balance of the schedule.

MEET SAGINAW

High Schoolers Will Play Strong
Arthur Hill Eleven Saturday.

The Alma high school football team will play the strong Arthur Hill high school eleven at Saginaw Saturday and unless the local aggregation goes into the game with a far different spirit than was shown in the Owosso game of last week, the locals are certain to meet with a bad defeat.

The Hillites as usual are represented by a strong grid team, and so far have tumbled the championship hopes of Grand Rapids south high and Flint central, taking both games 21 to 0. The Hillites have a number of capable veterans in the line-up and the eleven is a highly dangerous one for any team to tackle this year.

Coach Mullin is putting the locals through their paces this week, and is making a number of shifts in the line-up, and expects that it will be a far stronger team than that which faced Owosso. He has also been making an effort to get the idea of defeat out of the minds of the players and hopes they will go into the game with a little more determination to win.

LOCAL MAN SELLS STOCK

Leo A. Wood of Alma has taken the agency for the sale of stock in the Petoskey Portland Cement Co. of Petoskey, Mich., which is one of the best and most stable business concerns in the state. The editor of The Record lived in Emmet county for thirty years and is familiar with the property owned and business operated by this concern and is in position to know that there is an unlimited guarantee of material for the making of cement, and the company is managed by some of the most efficient and capable men in this section. It goes without saying that there is an ever growing demand for cement.

Mr. Wood is well known in this section and should be able to place stock so well and favorably known as Petoskey Portland cement stock.

WORK IS STARTED ON A NEW FACTORY

H. H. Soule, Local Contractor,
Starts Plant East of City for
New Truck Company.

Henry H. Soule, well known Alma contractor, who has had numerous building contracts for the Republic Motor Company Inc., Libby, McNeill & Libby, and who at the present time has charge of the construction of the new plants of the Northern Wheel company and of the Standard Oil Co., announced Tuesday that work would be started this week on the plant for the Bollstrom Motors company located between St. Louis and Alma, on the Michigan avenue road.

The building which is to be constructed, in which the four-drive truck is to be made, will be 60 feet in width and 304 feet in length, according to Mr. Soule. The plant is to be constructed of brick and concrete and will be one story in height. In appearance it will be the same as the main building of the Northern Wheel company, which is now being erected near Birch street, and will be only sixteen feet less in length than the wheel company structure.

The work has already been started, as laborers are now busy with the excavating for the foundations for the building, and within another week the foundations will probably be in place.

When asked how soon he expected to have the building completed and ready for use, Mr. Soule stated that the officials of the company expected that the factory building would be finished by the first of the coming year, when it is expected that operations will be started on a large scale.

The details regarding the building and the management of the company have been left to an executive committee which consists of the officers of the organization. They are, president, Henry H. Soule; vice president, Maurice Bollstrom; secretary and treasurer, Fred C. Ohland.

COLLEGE WINS OPENING GAME

Detroit Junior Was Powerless
Before Defense of Maroon
and Cream Warriors.

FINAL SCORE WAS 14 TO 0

Indications Are Bright for a Fast
Gridiron Team for Presbyterian
Institution.

It was a green and crude college football team which opposed Detroit Junior College on Davis field Saturday, but a bunch of aspirants which showed some possibilities of class, after a game or two, and the fans are hoping that the Maroon and Cream which tumbled the Juniors 14 to 0 in a loosely played contest will work into a formidable eleven, with additional practice and experience.

The green eleven was not lucky in winning the opening game, as the Detroit aggregation was admittedly the inferior of Coach Wood's bunch of footballers, and on the offensive never succeeded in making a first down, and threatening to score just once, this being in the third quarter, when Weisberg grabbed an Alma fumble in midfield and raced to the ten yard line, where he was pulled to the ground by Mark.

To start the game Detroit received, being downed on the 42 yard line, after a short kickoff. Junior was off-side on the first play. In three downs Junior gained for yards and was forced to punt to Hebert who was downed on the Alma ten yard stripe. Milford ripped off 17 yards, but on the next play Detroiters tore through the Alma line and tumbled him for a yard loss. Smith made 13 yards and first down. Milford failed to gain, and on a second play smashed through for 5. Smith made it first down. Smith added 6 yards. Milford gave a yard. Smith tore around end for 7 and another first down. Smith added 4 and Milford 5 yards. Milford was stopped for no gain, when Detroit again ripped up the line. Smith made it first down. Bill Richards added 3 yards in two downs. The line opened again and Milford was tumbled for a loss of 4 yards as the quarter ended.

On the first play of the second quarter Smith made 4 yards, but the ball went to Detroit on downs. Junior gained 7 yards in three and punted. Dennis punted short and it was Alma's ball on Junior's 19 yard line. Milford failed to gain. On three plays Smith made it first down, on the 8 yard line. Milford gained 4 yards in two attempts. On a delayed crossback, Smith tore over the line for a touchdown. Milford kicked goal. Immediately following the kickoff time was called for the half.

To open the third quarter Junior kicked to Alma. Hebert returning the ball to the forty yard line. Milford gained 7 and Mark made it first down. Milford made 3 and Smith 4, after which Milford plowed through ten yards for first down. Milford gained 3 and Smith made it first down. Hebert gained four through the line. Smith fell back of the line and lost 2 yards. Smith sent a pretty 20 yard pass to Boyne behind the Junior goal for the second touchdown. Hebert kicked out to Smith and Milford kicked goal.

Alma kicked to Junior, and after one play Smith intercepted a Junior pass on the forty yard line. Milford gained 8 yards. Alma was offside. Mark made it first down. A poor pass caused Milford to fumble. Weisberg picked up the oval and started for the Alma goal, being pulled down about ten yards short of the scoring line by Mark. Junior lost 15 yards on the next four plays, and it was Alma's ball. Alma failed to gain and for the first time was forced to punt, Junior taking the ball on her own thirty yard line. Junior lost a yard in three downs and punted to

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MAKING EFFORTS

Telephone Company Doing Its Best
to Make Service Better.

Last week The Record had occasion to criticize the Alma telephone system. It is not the purpose of The Record to criticize for the sake of criticism, but for the sake of bettering conditions. It is the policy of the Record to give both sides of a controversy a fair hearing, and in this connection we want to call the attention of the people of Alma to the fact that the editor interviewed the local manager and gleaned the following facts:

First, the city has outgrown the present equipment and the company has not been able to install new equipment on account of conditions. A visit to the telephone booth and observation of the girls working for a half hour will convince any one that they are working at top speed practically all the time. The people of Alma could help the condition greatly by talking as briefly as possible and cutting out all visiting and unnecessary talk. Bad connections should be reported to Manager Wagner at once and he will make an effort to remedy them. The manager says they are anxious to give first-class service but are handicapped by conditions and ask the co-operation of patrons until conditions can be changed.

The following letter from Secretary L. L. Conn of Owosso to Dr. Jay Clisbie is self-explanatory and sets forth the company's side of the case in a very frank way, and we are glad to give it publication:

Owosso, Mich.,
Sept. 27th, 1919.

Rev. Jay Clisbie,
Alma, Mich.,

Dear Mr. Clisbie:—I am just in receipt of the Alma Record clipping that you mailed to this office. We had already received a copy of this editorial. We very frankly acknowledge that the service in Alma is not at all efficient or satisfactory. We have been doing everything possible and our manager at Alma has been working early and late to improve conditions. We believe that there is some slight improvement and we hope it will not be possible to get the best service until we can get additional and improved facilities. This matter will be adjusted as readily as possible.

Articles such as this one that appeared in the "Record" have a tendency to injure the service rather than to improve it. One of the things that we need at this time is co-operation between the subscribers and our employees. Without this we cannot make much headway. We thank you for calling our attention to this matter and assure you that everything possible will be done to improve the service.

Very truly yours,
The Union Telephone Company,
L. L. Conn, Secretary.

CHURCH RALLY DAY COMES THIS SUNDAY

Alma Federated Churches Urging
All Citizens to Attend
Services of Choice.

Sunday, October 5, will be church rally day in the city of Alma. The Federation of Churches are co-operating for a greater church attendance, and all people are cordially invited and urged to attend the church of their choice on that day and on the succeeding Sundays.

Mayor Murphy has issued a proclamation in accordance with the spirit of the day, and there should be a real rally in Alma that will make the hearts of the preachers glad.

The fact that a rally day is called for at this time is prima facie evidence that the church attendance has been lax during the summer, and there is need for this occasion. As a matter of fact, people become so absorbed in their every day duties that they become negligent, and forgetful of their spiritual needs. In our hurry we seem to forget that the soul needs food as well as the body.

Probably a careful canvass of the city of Alma would not find to exceed five people and possibly not that many who do not believe in God, and in Jesus Christ, His Son, as the Saviour of the world, and who do not hope to ultimately reach heaven, but people have become so absorbed with business and so taken up with passing amusements that very little thought is given to God or His goodness until the grim reaper, death, appears around the corner somewhere, and then there is a panic for a short time.

If all the people of Alma should attend church every Sunday, and devote two hours per week to honestly seeking to serve God as He should be served, there would be a revolution in the city in ways of living and doing business, because there is no question but that a man who follows the teachings of Christ is a much better man for the experience.

Let's all go to the church of our choice next Sunday and give honest heed to the teachings. Let's make Sunday not only a rally day but a holy day, and we will be the better for it. We owe it to ourselves, our children, our city, and our nation to recognize God and respect His Day.

I'll take another slice of that good Pan-Dum bread please. Model Bakery.—14-4-c

CONSTRUCTING MUCH SIDEWALK

Nearly 35,000 Square Feet Now
Laid and Much More is to
Be Built.

TWO CREWS ARE WORKING

Work for Sewer Construction Now
Being Lined Up and Will Be
Started Soon.

During the past few weeks this city commission and William E. Reynolds, city manager, have been making every effort to construct as much sidewalk as possible in the city, and to put in that which has been felt was most badly needed, and up to Tuesday night 34,954 square feet of cement sidewalk have been laid.

During the past few years Alma has been growing rapidly, and the sidewalks did not keep pace with the growth. During the course of the war it was necessary to hold up the building of the walks, and as a result the city commission has a large accumulation of petitions for sidewalks. These petitions call for more walks than can possibly be laid under the most favorable conditions this fall and some of them must go over until next year.

This has made it necessary to go over the ground carefully and pick out the walk that was the most badly needed, and this is being put in as nearly as possible in this way, that the greatest number of people may derive the benefits therefrom.

The city now has two crews working on the sidewalks and they are making rapid headway. A continuation of good weather for another month will see much more badly needed sidewalk laid as a result. Resolutions for the construction of sidewalks are being passed each week by the commission and the work is being done just as rapidly as possible. Many paths in various parts of the city, which heretofore have been muddy in rainy weather, and highly disagreeable as a result, have been dispensed with within the last few weeks, with the laying of the 34,954 square feet of sidewalk. All of the walks which have been constructed are five feet in width.

An estimate on the walk which has been placed was obtained yesterday by City Manager Reynolds. The streets and the amount of walk laid on each follows: Republic avenue from Superior to Eastward has 3,590 square feet of walk; Eastward street from Republic to Grove avenues has 1,450 square feet; Grove avenue from Eastward to Rosedale streets has 4,325 square feet of walk, exclusive of 176 square feet of crossings; Rosedale street from Grove to Grover avenues has 7,965 square feet of walk, and Grover avenue north from Rosedale has 750 square feet of walk. On Pleasant avenue between Superior and Eastward streets 3,745 square feet of walk and 176 square feet of cross walk have been placed. On Eastward street between Pleasant and Republic avenues 3,725 square feet have been put in. Riverside Drive has 2,022 square feet of walk and Moyer avenue has 7,000 square feet of new walk.

Water Mains and sewer extensions are a hard proposition right now for the commission in view of the high cost of pipe, but some water mains have been laid on Mechanic street and a small amount of sewer on Grafton avenue.

Sewage conditions have also been bettered on several streets in the city, where manholes had not been made when the sewers were constructed. Eleven manholes have been put in and thirty more are to be constructed to do away with present conditions. It was stated by Manager Reynolds that had these manholes been constructed when the sewers were built, as should have been the case, that the cost would have been only about one-half of the present cost.

Plans are now being made for the further extension of sewers in the city, and it is expected that within the next two or three weeks bids will be asked from contractors for the construction of a large amount. It is the intention to get this work done, if possible, yet this fall.

DeLuxe candies.—77-4-c

MARRIED TUESDAY

Well Known Theatre Owner United
in Marriage Tuesday Evening.

Gilbert Genesta, proprietor of the Genesta theatre of this city, was quietly married Tuesday evening to Miss Roma Stockwell, formerly of North Star, much to the surprise of their friends, who had not anticipated the marriage of the well known couple.

Early Tuesday evening Mr. Genesta slipped over to Ithaca in his "speed wagon," secured the needed license from the county clerk, and returned to Alma, where Miss Stockwell was waiting for him, and a few minutes later the knot was very nicely tied. "Great was the surprise thereof" when Mr. Genesta passed out the cigars that evening to his friends and informed them that he had just been married.

Best candies. DeLuxe.—77-4-c